

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as currently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 17-25 are currently pending. Claims 20-25 have been amended; and Claim 26 has been cancelled without prejudice by the present supplemental amendment. Claim 22 has been amended to recite limitations recited in Claim 23 while Claim 23 has been amended to recite limitations recited in Claim 24. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added by the present supplemental amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 5 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph;¹ and Claims 17-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Jensen et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,175,614, hereinafter “Jensen”).

For the reasons set forth in the Amendment filed May 27, 2005, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of Claims 17-21 as anticipated by the Jensen patent. Moreover, Claims 22-25 recite limitations analogous to the limitations recited in Claim 17. Accordingly, for the reasons set forth in the Amendment filed May 27, 2005, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 22-25 patentably define over the Jensen patent.

Consequently, in view of the present supplemental amendment, the amendment filed on May 27, 2005, and the Request for Continued Examination filed on July 27, 2005, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 17-26 is earnestly solicited.

¹ Applicants note, however, that Claims 5 and 13 are not currently pending.

Application No. 10/659,310
Supplemental to the response filed on May 27, 2005

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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